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Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations

Programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007

Human resources management

Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations

Investing in the United Nations: for a stronger Organization worldwide: interim report

Investing in information and communications technology

Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered an advance copy of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Investing in the United Nations: for a stronger Organization worldwide: interim report — Investing in information and communications technology" (A/61/765). During its consideration of the report, the Committee met with representatives of the Secretary-General.

2. The interim report of the Secretary-General proposes to shift the placement of the Chief Information Technology Officer from the Executive Office of the Secretary-General to a new Office of Information and Communications Technology to be established in the Department of Management. It also outlines the envisaged functions and reporting lines of the Office and describes the distribution of functions that would be delegated to the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and other offices.

3. The Advisory Committee notes that, although the interim report was prepared with reference to section II of General Assembly resolution 60/283, it does not respond to requests contained therein. Upon enquiry, the Committee was informed that a comprehensive report was under preparation. The Committee trusts that the

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comprehensive report will respond to the requests of the Assembly in its resolution 60/283.

4. **The Advisory Committee does not find that there is sufficient justification in the interim report for the Secretary-General's proposal to reverse the decision of the General Assembly.**

5. **The Advisory Committee recommends that decisions on structures, staffing requirements, roles and responsibilities be taken up in the context of the General Assembly's consideration of the comprehensive report requested in resolution 60/283. Furthermore, as the Committee understands that the appointment of the Chief Information Technology Officer is to be made in the near future, it considers it important that the appointee be given the opportunity to contribute to the formulation of the organizational structure of the Office for which he or she will be responsible, bearing in mind that the development of information and communications technology in the United Nations also affects the wider United Nations system.**